

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Division of Habitat

1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701 (907) 459-7289 FAX (907) 459-7303

E-Mail: mac.mclean@alaska.gov

RECREATIONAL SUCTION DREDGE PERMIT (Forty Mile Area)

PERMIT NO. FH 11 - III - _____ SD

(Permit expires 12/31/2011 – see authorized dates)

1. Name of Operator(s) _____
2. Mailing Address _____ 3. Tel. No. _____
4. E-Mail Address (Optional) _____ 5. FAX No. _____
6. Dredge Intake Nozzle Diameter (in.) _____ 7. Engine (hp) _____
10. Authorized Stream Locations: SEE ATTACHED LIST.

PERMIT STIPULATIONS Stipulations #1, #2, and #3 apply for 841 (resident) streams; all stipulations apply for 871 (salmon) streams.

1. Intake nozzle diameter shall be six or less inches in diameter and shall be powered by 18 hp or less engine.
2. No damming or diversions are authorized.
3. Overland (off-road) vehicle access to the mining area that involves ford crossings of anadromous fish streams is NOT authorized under this Recreational Suction Dredge Permit. A Fish Habitat Permit is required for these ford crossings. Please attach a USGS quad map showing the access route to the mining area, including all stream crossings.
4. Streambanks shall not be mined or otherwise disturbed. Dredging is permitted within only the existing wetted perimeter (waterline) in the active stream channel. This stipulation does not apply to suction dredges operating within mine cuts located above the ordinary high water line or disconnected ponds and meander cutoffs.
5. Suction dredges shall not be used as hydraulic monitors to wash soils or other materials from above the water surface.
6. Winches shall not be used to move instream boulders, logs, and other natural obstructions which provide fish habitat and which are too large to move by hand.
7. No wheeled or tracked equipment shall be used instream.

This permit constitutes approval pursuant to AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871(d) and authorizes the above named person(s) to operate the described suction dredge(s) within the described stream locations and within the dates permitted. Anyone operating the described dredge(s) at locations or dates other than those listed in Part 10 or in noncompliance with the permit stipulations is subject to the penalty provisions of AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871. Please be advised that this approval does not relieve you of the responsibility of securing other permits, state, federal, or local nor does it authorize trespass on mineral claims or private lands.

Issued by (ADF&G) _____ Date: _____

I certify that I am a recreational miner, that I have read and understand the conditions of this permit, and that I agree to be bound by these conditions pursuant to Alaska Statutes AS 16.05.841 (Fishway Act) and AS 16.05.871 (Anadromous Fish Act), as applicable.

Signed (Applicant) _____ Date: _____

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME – DIVISION OF HABITAT

Recreational Suction Dredge Permits

General: A recreational suction dredge permit is required to dredge in a waterbody designated as important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish or that is used by resident fish as a migratory corridor. This permit may be obtained from the ADF&G, Division of Habitat located closest to your proposed dredging location. You may determine whether a waterbody is designated as important for anadromous fish by calling or visiting any ADF&G office and looking at the map catalog and atlas that legally identify designated anadromous fish streams.

Definition of Recreational Suction Dredging: ADF&G considers a suction dredge operation recreational if the dredge has an intake diameter of six (6) inches or less, powered by an 18 horsepower or less engine.

NOTE: On state land, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water also classifies suction dredges with an intake 6 inches or less and 18 hp or less recreational. Dredge operators with an intake larger than 6 inches or engine greater than 18 hp should contact the Alaska Division of Mining, Land and Water (451-2790) to obtain commercial mining application instructions.

Federal land managers consider dredges with an intake 4 inches or smaller recreational. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) have issued general permit for suction dredges with intakes of 6 inches or less and 18 hp or less. Larger dredges require prior notice or approval from the federal land manager, EPA and COE. Applicants should contact the Bureau of Land Management (907-474-2200), COE (907-474-2166) and EPA (907-271-5083) to obtain application instructions.

Application Fee: There is **no charge** for an ADF&G Recreational Suction Dredge Permit.

Land Status: ADF&G's Fish Habitat permitting requirements apply to all lands in Alaska, including state, federal and private. Issuance of an ADF&G Fish Habitat Permit does not eliminate the need to obtain other state, federal or local permits or approvals from private property or mine claim owners. The Alaska Division of Mining, Land and Water and the Bureau of Land Management can provide information on land status, the presence of valid mining claims, and whether an area is open for recreational suction dredge mining. You must have the permission of the legal owner to suction dredge on a valid mining claim.

Environmental Considerations: Even with simple tools or a small suction dredge, cumulative impacts can occur over time unless you follow permit conditions. Special care shall be taken to minimize scarring the terrain or destroying natural resources. The greatest single effect a suction dredge has on the environment is the danger it poses to fish. The dredge pump forces water and gravel through the nozzle and hose at 9 to 10 feet per second. Fish eggs taken up with the gravel cannot survive the shock, pressure, battering, and pounding that comes with moving through the hose and sluice. If the fish egg should somehow survive the hose and sluice, the chances for being reburied in the gravel at the right depth, gravel composition and location are virtually nonexistent. To prevent these impacts, your Recreational Suction Dredge Permit may include timing restrictions to protect developing eggs. Suction dredging is not allowed in salmon spawning areas after the adult salmon have returned to spawn.

Salmon bury their eggs in gravel nests called "redds." Other fish like Arctic grayling, northern pike, and whitefish spawn in the stream and the eggs settle to the streambed where they remain on the gravel surface throughout the incubation period. The material that runs through a suction dredge flows downstream and settles among the gravel and rocks in the streambed. Too much silt and sand make it difficult for the salmon to dig suitable redds. The silt and sand can also smother fish eggs already deposited or restrict inter-gravel water flow around the eggs. Fish and aquatic insects which fish eat have difficulty living in heavily silted streams. To prevent these impacts, your Recreational Suction Dredge Permit includes several stipulations prohibiting the washing of material from above the waterline or dredging of streambanks. Dredging may occur only within the active stream channel or on unvegetated gravel bars.

If you plan to take an ATV (all terrain vehicles) into a roadless area, you may need a permit from the land manager and a Fish Habitat from the ADF&G if you will ford a waterbody designated as important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish.

As with all outdoor activities, refuse and garbage should be packed out and placed in an approved solid waste disposal site, litter barrel, or thoroughly burned and buried. Please help to keep Alaska beautiful for the next recreational suction dredger, fishermen or outdoor enthusiast to follow.

10. Authorized Stream Locations

<u>Stream Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates Permitted</u>	<u>841/871</u>	<u>Anadromous Catalog Stream No.</u>
American Creek	Sect. 25, T1S, R32E, FM	5/15 to 10/15	871	334-45-11000-2576-3003
American Creek	Upstream of Sect. 25, T1S, R32E, FM	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Champion Creek	Below confluence w/ North Fork Forty Mile River	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Joseph Creek	Below confluence w/ Middle Fork Forty Mile River	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Mosquito Fork	Upstream of Kechumstuk Creek	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Mosquito Fork	Downstream of Ingle Creek	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Slate Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Independence Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Molly Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Hutchinson Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Kechumatuk Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Franklin Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Ingle Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Uhler Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Napoleon Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Jack Wade Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Logging Cabin Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Dennison Fork	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
E.F. Dennison Fork	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
W.F. Dennison Fork	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
O'Brien Creek	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
S.F. Forty Mile River	All	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
M.F. Forty Mile River	Upstream of confluence of Joseph Ck.	5/15 to 10/15	841	N/A (Resident)
Forty Mile River	Below confluence of North & South Forks Forty Mile River	5/15 to 10/15	871	334-45-11000-2600
Seventymile River	Downstream of Sect. 30, T1N, R32E, FM	5/15 to 7/10	871	334-45-11000-2520
Seventymile River	Upstream of Sect. 30, T1N, R32E, FM	5/15 to 10/15	871	334-45-11000-2520